

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. In a multithreaded computing environment, a method of processing computing tasks, comprising:
 - 5 defining a plurality of worker threads, each thread capable of processing a task;
 - defining a plurality of task queues, each task queue capable of queuing a plurality of tasks;
 - associating each task queue with a respective worker thread; and
 - 10 assigning a task to a task queue in an essentially random fashion.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein assigning a task comprises selecting an empty task queue.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein selecting comprises determining whether the selected task queue is in a busy state.
- 15 4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising, from a worker thread, processing a task from the associated task queue.
5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising, from a worker thread, processing a task from a task queue not associated with the thread.
- 20 6. In a multithreaded computing environment, a method of processing computing threads, comprising:
 - defining a plurality of worker threads, each thread capable of processing a task;

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assigning a task to an assigned task queue; and

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12. The system of Claim 11 wherein the task scheduler further determines whether the selected task queue is in a busy state.

13. The system of Claim 10 further comprising a worker thread processing a task from the associated task queue.

14. The system of Claim 10 further comprising a worker thread processing a task from a task queue not associated with the thread.

5 15. In a multithreaded computing environment, a system for processing computing threads, comprising:

a plurality of worker threads, each thread capable of processing a task;

a plurality of task queues, each task queue capable of queuing a plurality of tasks accessible by the worker threads and each task queue associated with a respective worker thread;

a task scheduler for assigning a task to an assigned task queue; and

wherein the assigned task is processed by a thread not associated with the assigned task queue.

10 15 16. The system of Claim 15 where the task scheduler selects the assigned task queue based on an essentially random number.

17. The system of Claim 15 wherein the task scheduler selects an empty task queue for assigning the task.

18. The system of Claim 17 wherein the task scheduler further determines whether the task queue is in a busy state.

20 19. An article of manufacturing, comprising:
a computer-readable medium;

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20. The article of Claim 19 wherein the instructions for assigning a task comprise selecting an empty task queue.

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22. The article of Claim 19 further comprising instructions for processing, in a worker thread, a task from the associated task queue.

23. The article of Claim 19 further comprising instructions for processing, in a worker thread, a task from a task queue not associated with the thread.

20 24. An article of manufacture, comprising:

a computer-readable medium;

a computer-implemented program for processing computing threads, in a multithreaded computing environment embodied in the medium, the program comprising instructions for:

defining a plurality of worker threads, each thread capable of processing a task;

defining a plurality of task queues, each task queue capable of queuing a plurality of tasks accessible by the worker threads;

associating each task queue with a respective worker thread;

assigning a task to an assigned task queue; and

in a worker thread not associated with the assigned task queue,
processing the task

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25. The article of Claim 24 where the instructions for assigning comprise selecting the assigned task queue based on an essentially random number.
26. The method of Claim 24 wherein the instructions assigning comprises selecting an empty task queue.
27. The method of Claim 26 wherein the instructions for selecting comprise determining whether the task queue is in a busy state.

26. The method of Claim 24 wherein the instructions assigning comprises selecting an empty task queue.

27. The method of Claim 26 wherein the instructions for selecting comprise determining whether the task queue is in a busy state.

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